

Prabha Shanti Lakra Beneficiary TEDP Tribal Artist Sohrai Painter

I got to see different art forms at the TEDP workshop, says Sohrai-artist Prabha Shanti Lakra

Prabha Shanti Lakra, 39, is an artist from Hazaribagh, a city in Jharkhand. A member of the Oraon tribe, she lost her job as a primary school teacher due to the pandemic.

The artist was introduced to the Sohrai painting by Alka, who runs the Sohrai Samiti group, which educates women and young girls about Sohrai and Kohvar paintings. Prabha informed that she used to watch her mother making art on mud walls of their house before it was replaced by a concrete one. She and her sister were familiar with making Sohrai paintings, but Alka introduced them to different styles and artwork.





The Sohrai artist participated in the Tribal Entrepreneurship Development Program (TEDP), where she learned of artworks apart from Sohrai painting. She also learnt to conduct business online as well as sell her products there. The workshop, a joint initiative of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) and Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), provides a platform for tribal artisans to make the transition to digital business.

The workshop turned out to be a great learning opportunity for Prabha as she got to know of different art forms. She also learned to do artwork on sarees and earn Rs 3000- Rs 4000 every month through her paintings now.

The Sohrai artist also participated in the national-level exhibition in Odisha this month (December 11 - 15, 2021), which was attended by 200 artists from all over the country.